

## **PON-09-002 – ARRA – Cost Share**

### **Questions and Answers**

1. **Question** – I have a DOE project in New York. I understand that the PIER cost share can be applied to projects already funded but, after reading the application, I am still not clear on how such a cost share might be accomplished for an existing grant. Can it be used to extend the grant toward California application or is it designed to offset cost for project objectives already stated?

**Answer** – The solicitation is to consider cost share funding for research proposal that has received a DOE award or is awaiting an award announcement by DOE for the listed FOAs in the PON. PIER funding is designed to offset cost for project objectives already stated in the DOE grant. If a DOE funded project is in NY and there is no project element in California, the project is ineligible for PIER cost share.

2. **Question** – ARPA-E recently released a solicitation (DE-FOA-0000207) that is a follow-up to the original (DE-FOA-0000065). This is a much more focused solicitation issued because of lessons learned from the rather broad solicitation that DE-FOA-0000065 represented. We are applying to this focused solicitation and need to apply for some cost share grant. Could we apply under the PON-09-002 solicitation?

**Answer** – No. This PON does not include that FOA.

3. **Question** – We are partnered with the prime contractor/awardee that has been funded by DOE. Can we apply the funds under PON-09-002 or does the prime contractor have to apply since they were awarded funds by DOE?

**Answer** – The prime contractor that was awarded funds by DOE has to apply for funds under PON-09-002.

4. **Question** – Why was the DOE ARPA-E, DE-FOA-0000206 entitled “Electrofuels” excluded from Table 1 of PON-09-002?

**Answer** – The ARPA E solicitation for Electrofuels was released in December, 2009. The PON-09-002 is focused on those Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA’s) that were released by DOE in April to August 2009.

5. **Question** – Does the Energy Commission have a solicitation which can provide cost share to US Department of Energy (DOE) – ARPA-E – Solicitation # DE-FOA-0000206, DE-FOA-0000207, and DE-FOA-0000208?

**Answer** – No. Not at this time.

6. **Question** – Can a new project that does not have a DOE award be funded?

**Answer – No. This solicitation is open to those who have submitted an application to DOE for one or more of the FOAs listed in Table 1 of the PON.**

7. **Question** – Can the project be proposed by a non-profit entity such as Work Training?

**Answer – Yes. This is an open solicitation and all types of organizations, as identified in the relevant federal FOAs, are eligible to apply.**

8. **Question** – Ranking for the project, will it be based on number of jobs created as well as renewable energy deployed.

**Answer – Ranking will be based on the scoring criteria in Attachment C of the PON.**

9. **Question** – If an agency were to submit multiple applications for different activities, is it possible to receive multiple awards of up to \$1 million for each application or is the \$1 million cap per agency?

**Answer – The Energy Commission will not provide multiple \$1 million awards for different activities of the same project that received a single award from DOE. For instance, if you received a \$2 million award from DOE in response to a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), the maximum cost share funding from the Energy Commission is stated in Table 2 of the PON. For additional information, please refer to Section 5 of the PON which states the following:**

- **The Energy Commission reserves the right to adjust the cost share amount for any single project, especially those that receive multiple federal funding awards for the same project.**
- **Organizations may submit multiple applications. However, each application must be for a distinct, separate project and must be submitted separately adhering to all requirements contained in this solicitation.**

**There is no cap per agency. If an agency submitted proposals for different FOAs, and if each proposal were awarded funding by DOE, the Energy Commission would consider funding each proposal, provided they meet the requirements stated in the PON.**

10. **Question** – Attachment F, Budget Template requests information by task. Please confirm that the Energy Commission only requires tasks described here to be performed using its funding and not task tasks performed under the DOE.

**Answer – Attachment F is for you to indicate how the match (Energy Commission) funding will be spent. Please list all tasks identified in your work scope. For those tasks to be funded by the Energy Commission, please break out those costs by the categories indicated in the spreadsheet, such as amount for direct labor, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, materials, etc. For tasks not funded by the Energy Commission, you need to show the amount of DOE**

**funding (and from other funding sources) for that task without the detailed breakdown (i.e. direct labor, fringe benefits, travel, etc).**

11. **Question** – The submittal requires a CD of all documents in Word or Excel formats only. However, attachment A requires signatures that can only be saved to a CD in a PDF format. Can we write “//s//” on the attachment A in Word document signifying our signatures, but not a signature in Word format. Please advise

**Answer – You can provide Attachment A in PDF format with the scanned signatures.**

12. **Question** – I would like to apply for the second round of ARPA-E financial assistance award, DE-FOA-0000207 concerning battery development. The concept paper is due by January 15, 2010. The APA-E grant requires a 20% cost share. I would like to use the PON-09-002 for the cost share, however, Table 1 on page of the application lists the corresponding FOA for cost share as DE-FOA-0000065 designation was for last year's (first round ARPA-E solicitation. Would it be possible to use PON-09-002 as a cost share for the ARPA-E second round solicitation DE-FOA-0000027?

**Answer – No. This solicitation does not allow the Energy Commission to substitute any FOAs. Please refer to the answers to questions 4 and 5.**

13. **Question** – Is it acceptable to have a portion of the non-state cost share to be from the EECBG funds? For example the funding of this one activity would look something like \$1.1 million EECBG funds, \$2 million Smart Grid Funds, \$1 million CEC Cost Share Grant, for a total cost of \$4 million. Another possibility would be to only use \$1 million of Smart Grid grant funds and 900,000 - \$1 million City matching funds if the Energy Commission grant were to require the applicant to also have a cost share.

**Answer – We do not have any requirements for the source of the non-state cost share. However, DOE may specify in its FOAs or its Block Grant terms and conditions what are acceptable sources of cost share. You should refer to the appropriate DOE terms and conditions. For instance, some FOAs may state that the cost share must come from non-Federal sources.**

**Under the DOE Smart Grid FOAs (FOA-36 and FOA-58), the maximum possible Energy Commission cost share is \$1 million or up to 10% of DOE award amount whichever is less. For the example given within the question, the maximum Energy Commission cost share will be 10% of the \$2 million Smart Grid funds for an amount of \$200,000.**

14. **Question** – If the EECBG funds ARE an allowed cost share source in addition to the Smart Grid funds, is there a minimum cost share required of the City? Your answer will determine whether or not we can submit this activity for funding since the EECBG funds are already allocated to the activity.

**Answer – The Energy Commission will only provide cost share to eligible applicants receiving an award from DOE for the FOAs listed in Table 1 of the PON. If you received a DOE award under FOA 58, the maximum Energy Commission cost share is \$1 million or up to 10% of DOE award amount**

**whichever is less. The Applicant is responsible for obtaining sufficient cost share to meet ARRA funding requirements if the Energy Commission is unable to successfully execute a funding agreement and/or if the amount provided by the Energy Commission is insufficient to meet the cost share requirement in the FOA.**